

REMARKS

In response to the final office action dated 12 June 2006, the applicants request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks. Claims 1-30 are pending in the application. Claims 1-13 and 20-27 are allowed, claims 16-19 and 29-30 are objected to, and claims 14-15 and 28 are rejected. Claims 14-15 and 28 will be canceled, claims 16, 19, 29, and 30 will be amended, and new independent claim 31 will be added upon entry of the present amendment. As a result, claims 1-13, 16-27, and 29-31 will be pending upon entry of the present amendment.

Allowable Subject Matter

The final office action indicated that claims 1-13 and 20-27 are allowed. The final office action also indicated that claims 16-19 and 29-30 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 16, 19, 29, and 30 will be amended to be in independent form upon entry of the present amendment. The applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 16, 19, 29, and 30, and claims 17 and 18 dependent on claim 16, are in condition for allowance.

New Claim

New independent claim 31 will be added upon entry of the present amendment. New claim 31 recites a processor including all of the elements recited in claim 1 that is allowed. The term “processor” is from claim 7 that is dependent on claim 1, and also allowed. The applicants respectfully submit that all of the features recited in new claim 31 are found in allowed claims 1 and 7, and that new claim 31 is allowable for reasons analogous to those supporting allowance of claims 1 and 7, among others.

Rejection of Claims Under §102

Claims 14-15 and 28 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Mooney et al. (U.S. 6,452,428, Mooney). The applicants respectfully traverse.

Claims 14-15 and 28 will be canceled upon entry of the present amendment to moot the rejection and obtain a notice of allowance. The applicants respectfully submit that canceled

claims 14-15 and 28 are not shown or suggested by the prior art, and reserve the right to prosecute the invention of claims 14-15 and 28 in a continuing application.

CONCLUSION

The applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone the below-signed attorney at 612-373-6973 to discuss any questions which may remain with respect to the present application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.


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By


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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8. The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to: MS AF, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 11th day of August 2006.

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Signature